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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Sorge, J.
Serial No.: 09/338,855
Filed: June 23, 1999
Entitled: **Methods of Enriching For and Identifying Polymorphisms**

Attorney Docket No. : 4435/79243

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

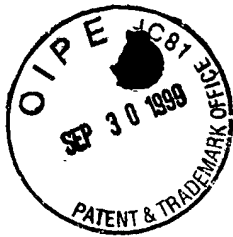
Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Preliminary Amendment and return postcard to be filed in the above-identified patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

9-30-99
Date

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CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

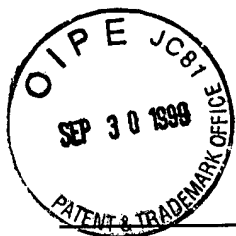
I hereby certify that the papers attached hereto are being deposited with the United States Postal Service using "Express Mail to Addressee" service, **Express Mail No. EL058485360S** on this date, / /99, postage prepaid, under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Karen Ann Crateau

Name of Person Mailing Paper

Karen Ann Crateau

Signature of Person Mailing Paper



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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend claim 17 of the above-referenced patent application as follows:

17. (Amended) A method of identifying nucleic acid sequence differences with respect to a reference sequence comprising:

a) cleaving a nucleic acid sample from one or more individuals with one or more sequence-specific cleavage agents to produce nucleic acid fragments, wherein the ends of only a subset of the fragments comprise sequences capable of being operatively linked to a separation element;

b) operatively linking said subset of step (a) with [said] a separation element to produce linked molecules;

c) separating said linked molecules to produce separated molecules; and

d) detecting one or more nucleic acid sequence differences with respect to a reference sequence in the members of said separated molecules of step (c) [with a method capable of detecting one or more nucleotide differences with respect to a reference sequence].

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment corrects a defect in antecedent basis in the claim as originally filed. Support for the language added to step (a) of claim 17 may be found at page 7, lines 7 and 8 of the specification.

Respectfully submitted,

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